Age of Literature in Spanish overlaps the Spanish and American regimes. Then appeared Fernando Ma. Guerrero, acclaimed as the national poet$ Dr. Trinidad H. Pardo de Tavera, the Filipino philologist and scholar, a master of Spanish 5 Epifanio de los Santos, the indefatigable researcher, acknowledged savant, and brilliant writer j and Justice Ignacio Villamor, industrious statistician, famed criminologist, and distinguished essayist. The works of these great Filipinos were characterized by an authoritative use of Spanish, although they were also acquainted with English and other languages, by a distinct trend toward the expression of nationalistic feelings, and by a sincere desire to encourage the development of Philippine literature. Spanish culture continues to be fostered by the Philippine Academy, a branch of the *Real Academia da La Lengua Espanola* (Royal Academy of the Spanish Language) composed of Filipino scholars proficient in the Spanish language.

What shall we say of the present era? Probably we are too near to events to offer any convincing critique of Filipino literature in English. One point favorable to American influence has been the greater latitude permitted in the development of the Island's literature, vernacular and otherwise, because of the implantation of freedom of speech and of the press.

The works of the young writers are numerous but few are noteworthy. They are mostly superficial and lack depth. Marcelo de Gracia Concepcion has enjoyed the distinction of having a small volume of poetry, entitled *Azucena,* brought

out by an American publisher, and Jose Garda Villa has been accorded similar recognition for his *Footnote to Youth: Tales of the Philifpnes, and Others.* Edward J. O'Brien has made the statement that his volume places Villa "among the half dozen short-story writers in America who count," but no rush is noted to second the fulsome praise. Personally I think Villa's short story "Mir-i-nisa" a perfect little gem. A